



# STATE OF KANSAS OFFICE OF THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL **TRUMPET**

October 2012  
Volume 2 Issue 10

## From the Desk of the State Fire Marshal, Doug Jorgensen

As we enter October, we have just completed one of the hottest, driest summers on record which resulted in many significant fires of varying nature. As a result, much of our state is still faced with severe drought conditions and fire danger remains extremely high.

Recognizing the danger, Governor Sam Brownback proclaimed October 7th-13<sup>th</sup> Fire Prevention Week in Kansas. With that in mind and with the Governor's support, the Office of the State Fire Marshal and many fire departments in Kansas and around the country will be out in their communities working to educate the public regarding fire safety.

This year's theme for Fire Prevention Week is **HAVE 2 WAYS OUT** and the United States Fire Administration wants to raise awareness about having multiple routes to exit your home or office in the event of a fire or other emergency. First identify a primary and secondary escape route from each room or office and practice these routes with coworkers and your family. Also, establish a "family meeting spot" at home; go to the mailbox at the roadway or the big tree in the front yard. At work you should have pre-determined exit routes and locations to meet once you are safely out of the building. The purpose of the meeting place is to ensure accountability for all occupants. Once you're out do not go back inside and report anyone who is missing to the fire department once they arrive.

To help raise awareness, many Kansas fire departments will host open houses or conduct safety fairs or other community events. I encourage everyone to check with your local fire department to see what activities are planned and take some time to participate in these important activities. These events are fun for the entire family and for the firefighters as well. They are a great opportunity to go to the fire station, see the fire trucks and the equipment they carry, meet your local firefighters and maybe even get a tasty treat or two! There's no better way to learn about fire safety!

Halloween is also this month, and families will be going to haunted houses and other family attractions. Each year before these venues open, they must be inspected by an OSFM inspector or the local fire department. The OSFM Prevention Division staff takes great pride in its responsibility to help ensure that these locations are not only fun, but safe for the public to attend. I expect this year to be no different.

Have a great October!

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# October is Fire Prevention Month



**Former  
State Fire Marshal  
Gale Haag**

**June 9, 1938  
to  
September 17, 2012**

It seems fitting that a dedication to former state fire marshal Gale Haag will appear in the October Trumpet.

October is Fire Prevention Month and Gale Haag was all about education. Of all the things the State Fire Marshal's office is responsible for, SFM Haag thought education was the key with communication a close second. Whether it was educating ourselves, facility owners/operators, small children, older adults, or the general public, it was always education. Getting the buy-in and understanding of those we work to protect was so important. He knew that if they understood what we were doing and why we were doing it, they would voluntarily do what was needed to make their homes and businesses as fire safe as possible, whether anyone was watching or not.

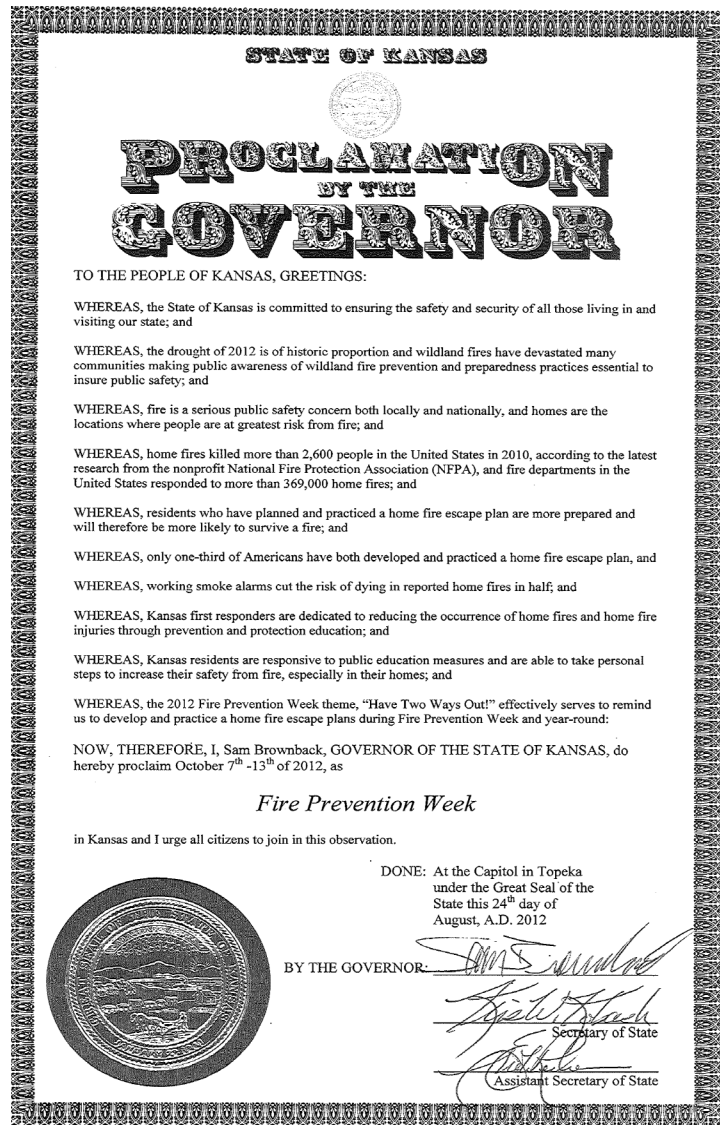
Gale embraced every opportunity as another chance to make a friend and teach people about fire and life safety. "People" always came first, their safety paramount. This is the way he managed the Kansas State Fire Marshal Office, as it was called in those days. He led a God-centered life, with people first and family at the top of the charts, then his beloved state of Kansas, where the family farm was settled by his great-great-grandfather eons ago and last but not at all least, this great country of ours.

Gale Haag loved life and regardless of the challenges (and he had many) he met everything and everybody with a big smile and an electric personality. He worked hard to treat everyone fairly, with dignity and respect and in so doing he usually got the best folks had to offer. His staff cared deeply about him because they knew he had their backs, he would stand with them no matter the situation and if a mistake were made, you corrected it, and moved on, knowing a lesson had been learned.

As for the fire service, Gale had such respect and admiration for the fire service, especially all you volunteers who put your lives and livelihoods on the line to protect family, friends and neighbors. Gale never took credit for much, but I think he always hoped he had contributed in some small way to opening up communications between all the groups dedicated to fire and life safety. Gale Haag honestly felt like the Kansas fire service could do anything if they set their sights on the prize, then worked together.

Although the world lost a giant of a man, I know Heaven is a much brighter place with the hardy laughter and practical jokes of Gale Haag!!

## **Governor Brownback Proclaims Fire Prevention Week October 3 - 17, 2012**





# CURRENT EVENTS

## U.S. Drought Monitor

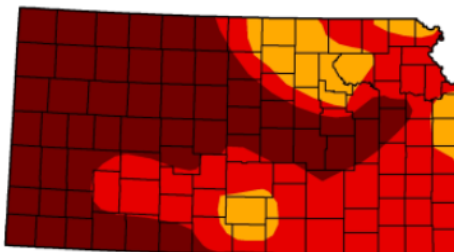
Kansas

September 18, 2012

Valid 7 a.m. EST

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	0.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	88.34	51.04
Last Week (09/11/2012 map)	0.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	88.34	60.61
3 Months Ago (06/19/2012 map)	0.03	99.97	89.78	33.90	0.89	0.00
Start of Calendar Year (12/27/2011 map)	42.48	57.52	47.15	23.21	12.79	0.22
Start of Water Year (09/27/2011 map)	16.39	83.61	66.03	48.78	28.54	17.63
One Year Ago (09/13/2011 map)	19.89	80.11	63.29	49.90	32.26	17.63



### Intensity:

- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Drought - Moderate
- D2 Drought - Severe
- D3 Drought - Extreme
- D4 Drought - Exceptional

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements.

<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu>



Released Thursday, September 20, 2012  
David Simeral, Western Regional Climate Center

## Successful Annual Training on the Firefighter Relief Act

The Kansas Insurance Department conducted a training on the Firefighter Relief Act on Saturday, September 29th from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm. in Walnut Kansas.

The session was an in-depth training class which covered every aspect of the program. The agenda included:

- FRA Program Tools
- Receipts
- FRA Expenditures
- Investments
- FRA Distribution Status
- FRA Admin Change in Direction
- General FRA Information
- New Handbook
- Insurance
- Annuities
- Complying with Relief Act
- Kansas Open Records/Meetings Act
- FRA Online Program
- Electronic Financial Statement Submissions
- Redetermination Procedure

The training, a special request, hosted 10 departments with 22 participants. Lunch was provided for all those who attended.

The next FRA Training will be held in conjunction with the KSFFA Regional Fire School in Larned, on Saturday, November 3rd at the High School, 815 Corse Avenue.

For more information about the FRA or upcoming trainings you may contact:

John Boyd  
Administrator FRA  
Kansas Insurance Department  
785-296-7831  
[jboyd@ksinsurance.org](mailto:jboyd@ksinsurance.org)



Kansas Forest Service  
2610 Claflin Rd.  
Manhattan, KS 66502-2798  
785-532-3300  
Fax: 785-532-3305  
E-mail: [kfs@lists.oznet.ksu.edu](mailto:kfs@lists.oznet.ksu.edu)  
<http://www.kansasforests.org>

August 27, 2012

TO: Kansas Forest Service Partners and Friends

From: Larry Biles, State Forester, Kansas Forest Service

Dr. Stu Warren, Head, Department of Horticulture, Forestry and Recreation Resources

Subject: Invitation: Kansas Forest Service's 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Open House (October 4, 2012)

Earlier this year the Kansas Forest Service turned one-hundred twenty five years old. In honor of that milestone event **the Agency is hosting an open house at 2610 Claflin Road, Manhattan, Kansas from 2:00 to 6:00 p.m. Thursday October 4.**

Planned educational activities and demonstrations include:

- experiencing a 75 year old Ponderosa Pine plantation,
- updates on pine wilt and emerald ash borer,
- touring the greenhouse and shade house seedling production operation,
- seeing a tree planter, and a weed barrier fabric machine used to plant tree seedlings,
- getting an up close look at a wildfire engine and a wildfire tender truck
- seeing the conversion of logs to lumber via a portable sawmill,
- viewing woody biofuels (pellets and bricks), and unique tree species in the Agency's memorial and honorarium garden,
- learning how to properly care for your trees, and
- touring a unique hardwood paneled office building.

**Indulging in KSU Ice Cream.**

**Demonstration / Tour / Discussion Start Times: 2:30; 3:15; 4:15. 5:00**

**Sawmill, Conservation Trees, Fire Equipment, Forest Health, Rural Forestry, Community Forestry, Hardwood Paneled Office Building**



## OSFM Staff Work with Other State Agencies to Test Continuity of Operation Plans



When a disaster disrupts life in a community, citizens naturally turn to their local government to assist them. However, sometimes those same disasters affect government operations, so how does a city or state government take care of its citizens when its ability to respond is affected?

Numerous state agencies reviewed their continuity of operations plans recently at a tabletop exercise at Nickell Armory in Topeka. During the discussion-based exercise, participants tested their current Continuity of Operations Plan (COOP) plans using a fictional disaster scenario.

According to Maj. General Lee Tafari, Adjutant General of Kansas and Director of the Kansas Division of Emergency Management, "As those responsible for the health and safety of Kansans, we have a duty to respond in times of disaster, even when those disasters affect us." He went on to say, "We have to plan ahead and say 'What would we do if this happened? How will we do our jobs? How can we continue to help the people we serve?' This exercise will help us look at the plans we have in place and see if they address those 'What if' questions and where our plans need to be refined."

The exercise included several modules that focused on notification, communication, alternate facilities, and mission essential functions.

## Former OSFM Employee Completes Dual International Professional Designation

Retired OSFM Fire Protection Specialist Mike Heim moved onto other challenges when he left the agency. He is now the Fire Chief of the City of West Burlington, Iowa Fire Department. He is also one of only 32 fire officials worldwide and the first in Iowa to receive the "professional" designation of "Fire Marshal" from the Commission on Professional Credentialing (CPC).

The CPC awards the Certified Fire Official/Fire Marshal (CFO/FM) dual designation only after an individual successfully meets all of the organization's stringent criteria. The process includes an assessment of the applicant's education, experience, professional development, technical competencies, contributions to the profession, and community involvement. In addition, all applicants are required to identify a future professional development plan.

In addition, Chief Heim graduated from the National Fire Academy's Executive Fire Officer Program and has earned two bachelor's degrees: one in Fire Administration and Management and the second in Fire Prevention Technology.

## Coffeyville Fire Department Implements Public Safety Class for High School Students

Coffeyville High School students had a new opportunity this year; they could sign up for a Public Safety Career Path course. The class, approved by the Kansas Department of Education, allows young people beginning in their freshman year the opportunity to look at public safety careers including fire service, emergency medical service and law enforcement. During their freshman year, students look at all the options available to them; then in their junior and senior years they can concentrate in the area that is of most interest to them.

Coffeyville Fire Chief James Grimmert indicated that the Coffeyville Fire Department, the Wichita Fire Department and the Arkansas City Fire Department were the only three departments in the state that he knew of involved in the program. Chief Grimmert said 79 young people had signed up with 32 in the first class. At this time, the Coffeyville program is only offering the fire and EMS portions of the class.

As the picture gallery shows, the department set up five stations exposing students to a number of opportunities. The stations included turn out gear, level A suits, deploying a hose line, using a portable fire extinguisher and sitting through an educational DVD that covered the fire triangle, smoke alarms, escape planning, fire extinguisher use and more. Throughout the course students will have the ability to take an EMS class to become certified EMTs, as well as taking Firefighter I and II using the Essentials books which would allow them to become certified FFI and FFII when they reach 18. In addition to the curriculum and classroom modules, students will do practical applications and ride-a-longs.

Another plus is that students could continue their education and training by enrolling in the Fire Science program through the Coffeyville Community College earning an Associates Degree in Fire Science.

If your department would like more information about the program you may call the Department of Education at 785-296-3202 or contact Chief Grimmert at [jgrimmert@coffeyville.com](mailto:jgrimmert@coffeyville.com) or 620-252-6147.





## The Kansas State Fair A Fire and Life Safety Educational Opportunity



Members of the OSFM staff helped man the Governor's booth at the 2012 Kansas State Fair this year.



The Fair was an opportunity for members of the agency to talk to fairgoers about fire safety and encourage installation and maintenance of smoke alarms and home fire drills.

Informational brochures were provided as well as activity sheets and fire chief helmets for the kids. In addition, participants could visit with inspectors and investigators about their jobs, ask questions and get additional information about topics that interested them.



## Preparedness Day at the State Fair

Monday, September 10, was Kansas Preparedness Day when all Kansans were encouraged to take steps to make their homes, businesses, schools, and neighborhoods prepared for disasters, natural and man-made.

As a result, the Kansas State Fair designated the special day by having a number of emergency agencies and organizations present information booths, demonstrations and displays of emergency equipment.



Staff from the State Fire Marshal were on hand to visit with fairgoers about the agency. HazMat Chief Thompson brought an agency HazMat truck/trailer as well as many pieces of specialized equipment.



Fire Investigation Chief Rose Rozmairek and Fire Investigator Kris Smyth demonstrated how the agency accelerant canine searches a fire scene for evidence as to how the incident started.



## Senior Firefighters Hang up Helmets

The Arkansas City Fire Department honored two of its top officers retiring after decades of service.

Les Parks, was with the department a total of 32 years, serving more than two years as interim fire chief. Parks was hired by ACFD when he was 17 and still in high school. He began work in June 1978 as soon as he turned 18.



He said he joined the department because he thought the job would be exciting and interesting, which he found to be true, but he also found out it was a very demanding job. In fact he was quoted as saying, "the job is your second home, your working home, one-third of your life's here, while you are on shift. And then you get called in a lot when you're not on shift. You have to be available for emergencies." He said he spent more time at the station than at home.

Captain Jon Cannon was also with the department for 32 years. Cannon was an engineer and paramedic. He became the Emergency Medical Service director in 1988 and was then promoted to Captain in 1992. He was a certified fire investigator and a SWAT medic with the Southern Kansas SWAT Team.

Both men agreed that the job is fun and exciting but has become more dangerous and complex during their careers.

Congratulations Les Parks and Jon Cannon!

# Mid-Kansas

## Stephen Seller

### Tunnel to Towers Run

Let Us Do Good

[www.tunneltotowersrun.org](http://www.tunneltotowersrun.org)

**5K Run/Walk/Stroll**  
\$25; \$10 kids 12 & under

After November 1<sup>st</sup>:  
\$35; \$20 kids 12 & under

Every runner receives a t-shirt and commemorative dog tag.

Age groups from 12 & under to 70 +

**DATE:** November 10, 2012

**START TIME:** 8:30 AM Registration opens  
10:00 AM Race begins

**LOCATION:** 200 block of North C Street in downtown Wellington near the Public Safety Center and the Firehouse.

**TO REGISTER:** [www.t2trun.org/midkansas](http://www.t2trun.org/midkansas)

**MORE INFORMATION:** [shansel@sutv.com](mailto:shansel@sutv.com) or call the Wellington Chamber @ 620-326-7466 or check out [facebook.com/MidKansasTunnelToTowersRun](https://facebook.com/MidKansasTunnelToTowersRun)

Join us for the after party  
Tacos- Beer- Music and Fun!





## NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF STATE FIRE MARSHALS

### **NASFM Amends Smoke Alarm Guidance to Recommend 10-Year Battery; Issues Call to Action to Members**

Washington, D.C.— The National Association of State Fire Marshals (NASFM) is asking members to review its updated Guidance Document on residential smoke alarms, which now supports alarms being powered by a 10-year sealed battery, and urges its members to begin educating their community about the recommendation.

NASFM made this update based on approval by its Board of Directors of a white paper by the group's Science Advisory Committee (SAC) regarding the use of 10-year long-life batteries. Presented at NASFM's annual conference in July, the paper concluded that the organization should recommend the use of 10-year batteries in battery-operated smoke alarms as long as the battery is contained in a tamper resistant, sealed unit. The latter guideline would help prevent consumers from disabling the alarm or replacing the battery with a regular 9-volt battery or AA batteries, and help ensure that both the unit and its battery would be replaced simultaneously.

"As an organization of the top state fire officials, it is our duty to review industry trends and technology and provide direction on ways to continue reducing fire fatalities and providing better protection," said NASFM President J. William Degnan, New Hampshire State Fire Marshal. "The Science Advisory Committee spent months undertaking an extensive literature review, debating the issue and discussing it with technical experts. We appreciate their dedication and stand by their recommendation."

NASFM's updated guidance is consistent with several other organizations that support 10-year alarms, including the Centers for Disease Control, National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), and the Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program of the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

The issue of longer-life smoke alarms has gained momentum as the number of fire-related deaths in U.S. homes has plateaued. The NFPA reports nearly two-thirds of home fire deaths between 2005-2009 occurred in homes with no smoke alarms or no working smoking alarms. Of the inoperable alarms, half had missing or disconnected batteries and another quarter had dead batteries.

Consumer research also indicates that consumers want more maintenance-free protection, such as alarms with longer-life batteries that are easy to replace or do not need replacement and that eliminate the low battery chirps. Smoke alarms that contain a 10-year lithium battery built into the units address both of these needs.

"Working smoke alarms are crucial to early warning in a fire, and consumers with battery-operated smoke alarms should use 10-year batteries in tamper-resistant units to help ensure that they will have that early warning if it is needed," Degnan added. "This advance in technology takes the burden off consumers to remember to change smoke alarm batteries, and it will save lives."

NASFM also recommends that consumers install smoke alarms on each floor, including living areas and hallways, and inside and outside of sleeping areas. For consumers who may find the technology cost-prohibitive, the SAC suggests first placing one long-life battery smoke alarm per floor, including the basement. The second priority should be outside every separate sleeping area. All smoke alarms should be replaced every 10 years and tested monthly.

Seeing the benefits and available technologies, several states and cities have passed or have pending legislation to require 10-year sealed smoke alarms. For more information on the SAC's white paper and the NASFM guidance on smoke alarms, visit <http://www.firemarshals.org/programs/fireprotectiontechnologies.html>.

# HoT 2012

## Fire School

### PAOLA, KS

**OCTOBER  
26-27-28**  
Fri. Sat. Sun.



# Topics

# HANDS ON

- Forcible Entry
- Ladders - Tricks of the Trade
- Street Smart Size-up
- Firefighter Safety
- Highway Safety for the First Responder
- RIC Rapid Intervention Crews
- ROAM Rules of Air Management
- Interior Firefighting - Sponsored by Kansas Fire & Rescue Training Institute
- Breaching - Sponsored by Kansas Fire & Rescue Training Institute
- Grain Engulfment Rescue - Sponsored by Kansas Fire & Rescue Training Institute

**Register On Line Now:**  
<http://www.paolahot2012.eventbrite.com>



date	location	CONTACT: For Additional Information	Chief Andy Martin 913-406-5543
26-27-28	PAOLA FIRE DEPT.		

# FIRE PREVENTION DIVISION NEWS

## Fire Prevention Week

The theme for National Fire Prevention Week, October 7-13<sup>th</sup>, is “Have 2 Ways Out”. Fire departments around the country will be going into their schools and communities to help spread the word and educate families on the necessity of having a fire escape plan in case the smoke alarm sounds, with 2 ways out of each room.

When it comes to Fire Prevention Week activities, the Office of the State Fire Marshal encourages administrators and teachers to include fire safety activities in their lesson plans during the week and to work with local fire departments to encourage fire safety. Consider inviting your local department into the classrooms to speak with the children and allow them to interact in a positive, safe environment. In some communities, the local departments will invite older children, usually 2nd to 4th graders, to the fire station for their fire safety lessons! Lots of resources are available.

The Office of the State Fire Marshal has a limited amount of fire prevention week materials for schools to provide to children in grades 2-4 on a first-come-first-served basis. We also have fire education programs and DVDs which teachers or child care professionals can check out that will provide a full fire safety/prevention lesson for your use if you do not have one, or you can supplement your current curriculum. There's more to fire prevention than just having two ways out. Use these tips to plan your escape and stay fire safe!

### Plan your escape

- [Make a map of your home](#) (PDF, 844 KB). Mark a door and a window that can be used to get out of every room.
- Choose a meeting place outside in front of your home. This is where everyone can meet once they've escaped. Draw a picture of your outside meeting place on your escape plan.
- Write the emergency telephone number for the fire department on your escape plan.
- Have a grown-up sound the smoke alarm and practice your escape plan with everyone living in your home.
- Keep your escape plan on the refrigerator and remind grown-ups to have your family practice the plan twice a year or whenever anyone in your home celebrates a birthday.

### Know when to go

- If there is a fire in your home, there will be smoke.
- A smoke alarm will let you know there is a fire.
- A smoke alarm makes a loud noise – beep, beep, beep.
- When the smoke alarm sounds, get outside and stay outside.
- Go to your family outside meeting place.

### Sound the alarm

- Ask a grown-up to check to be sure there are smoke alarms on every level of your home, inside each bedroom and outside each sleeping area.
- Remind grown-ups to test smoke alarms once a month.

### Cook safely

- Remind grown-ups to stay in the kitchen when cooking. Keep things that can burn (potholders, towels, and paper) away from the stove.
- Stay three feet away from the stove when a grown-up is cooking.

### Wire check

- Help grown-ups check electrical cords to make sure they are not damaged.

### Turn down the heat

- Remind grown-ups to keep space heaters 3 feet from anything that can burn.
- Grown-ups should always turn off space heaters every time they leave the room and before going to bed.
- Remind grown-ups never to use an oven to heat your home.

### Candle with care

- Remind grown-ups to put out lit candles when they leave a room.
- Stay three feet away from burning candles.

Just click the link above to download copies of *How to Make a Home Fire Escape Plan* and get a home fire escape plan grid so children can go home and make a plan with their families. For other fire safety and Fire Prevention Week ideas, check out the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) at [www.nfpa.org](http://www.nfpa.org)



Download our [home fire escape plan](#) (PDF, 844 KB), and mark a door and a window that can be used out of every room.



## Haunted House Regulations

Summer is over and the leaves are starting to fall which means it's time to start

preparing for the fall holiday season.

With Halloween only a month away, families will start visiting haunted houses, ghost walks and other special amusements, so the Kansas State Fire Marshal, Doug Jorgensen, wants to remind everyone that even though these amusements are intended for family Halloween entertainment, the structures can present an increased risk with regards to fire and life safety.

Kansas has adopted the 2006 International Fire Code which requires these types of facilities to comply with major components of fire and life safety. History is full of examples of why compliance is so important to the participants fire and life safety. On May 11, 1984 a tragic fire in the "Haunted Castle" at the Six Flags Great Adventure Park in New Jersey resulted in the deaths of eight visitors because they were unable to immediately exit the amusement structure.

If you are considering operating or designing one of these amusements, special attention should be given to the following requirements:

- Automatic Sprinkler System in accordance with NFPA 13
- Automatic Fire Alarm System in accordance with NFPA 72
- Number of exits
- Exit signs, illumination and emergency lighting
- Travel distance to exits
- Use of flammable liquids
- Use of combustible interior finish
- Location of extinguishing equipment
- Adequate staff trained in evacuation and equipped with flashlights
- Established emergency procedures
- Readily available means to notify local fire, police and emergency medical services

For added safety, it may be necessary to limit occupant load, add additional emergency exits or establish other special precautions to minimize a potential risk due to some unique circumstance. In any event, every effort should be made to provide an enjoyable but safe environment as determined by the local fire inspection authority.

The specific requirements may be modified by the state fire marshal to allow alternative measures to obtain an equivalency to the code. K.S.A.31-136 provides procedures for exemptions of these requirements upon written request. The written request must demonstrate that the specific requirement causes unnecessary hardship.

Have a safe and happy Halloween!

## FIRE/SMOKE DAMPERS

Fire and smoke dampers designed to resist the passage of smoke are required to be installed in each transfer opening or duct penetration of a required smoke or fire barrier. Smoke barriers are usually rated for 30 minutes or 1 hour; fire barriers are generally rated for 1 or 2 hours. Some exceptions to this requirement are:

- Not required for ducts or air transfer openings that are part of an engineered smoke control system;
- Not required where the air inlet or outlet openings in ducts are limited to a single smoke compartment;
- Air handling systems that are arranged to prevent recirculation of exhaust or return air under fire emergency conditions; and
- Not required for fully ducted heating, ventilating, and air conditioning systems in existing buildings where an automatic sprinkler system utilizing quick response sprinklers is installed.

Smoke dampers close upon activation of a smoke detector that is located in close proximity within the duct, while fire dampers close when the fusible link that is a part of its assembly is activated.

Most people think that fire and smoke dampers are integral components of an automatic or manual fire alarm system. Unlike the fire alarm control panel, initiation devices (manual pull stations, smoke detectors), and notification devices (horn/strobes, speakers) which make up the basic components of a fire alarm system, fire and smoke dampers are integral components of the heating, air conditioning, and ventilation system of a building.

While fire and smoke dampers may close upon activation of the building general fire alarm, installation and maintenance of these devices is performed by HVAC contractors per NFPA 72, *Fire Alarm Code*, and NFPA 90, *HVAC Systems*. Fire alarm contractors will inform you during the acceptance test of the fire alarm system that while the dampers can be tested to see if they close upon activation of the building fire alarm, duct smoke detector, or fusible link, these devices are generally designed and maintained and are the responsibility of the HVAC contractor.

Fire and Smoke Dampers must be tested on a 4-year cycle according to the 1999 edition of *NFPA 90A, Standard for the Installation of Air-Conditioning and Ventilating Systems*; but NFPA has determined that an increase in the testing to a 6-year cycle does not lower the fire protection or function, "so long as the hospital's testing system conforms to the requirements under the 2007 edition of NFPA 80... and the 2007 edition of *NFPA 105: Standard for the Installation of Smoke Door Assemblies*." The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid (CMS) has allowed a waiver for hospitals to extend their testing cycles to the 6-year cycle; however, all other facilities must still adhere to the 4-year cycle.

If you have questions about smoke or fire dampers, their testing requirements or other fire safety questions, please contact the Prevention Division at (785) 296-3401.



# FIRE INVESTIGATION DIVISION NEWS

## Fire Prevention from an Investigation Perspective by Rose Rozmairek, Chief

With this being Fire Prevention Month, it is important to recognize some of the items that the investigators come across during the investigation of fires. Instead of getting general information of what might start fires we have firsthand knowledge of what has started fires in Kansas.

One item we see is the improper use of electrical extension cords. You need to make sure you are using the proper rated cord for the power required for the appliance you are using it for. If you don't use the proper rated cord you can overheat the cord and ignite combustibles around it. You should also inspect extension cords periodically to check for frayed or broken wires.

Coiling the excess on extension cords can cause resistance in the wires and also cause overheating of the cord. Do not place combustible materials such as carpets or furniture over the cords. If you are going to leave your house for a long period of time it is also a good insurance policy to unplug extension cords and appliances too. It not only will prevent fires but also save on your electric bills. Even appliances that are turned off but plugged into the electric outlets can draw electrical power.

Since we are also getting into the colder months, many people will supplement the heating source in their homes with electric space heaters. The malfunction and improper use of these heaters becomes a major cause of fires during the colder months.

The first thing to remember is to follow the manufacturer guidelines for proper use of all space heaters. Make sure you keep flammable materials away from the heater. These heaters can put out a substantial amount of heat that can ignite other materials. Unless the heater is designed for outdoor or bathroom use, do not use them in damp or wet areas. This not only can cause fires but also is an electric shock hazard. Periodically check to make sure the plug is secure in the outlet and if it is very hot to the touch it may need to be replaced. When not in use space heaters should be unplugged from the outlet. Inspect space heater cords for damage each year before using them.

It is not recommended to use any extension cord with portable electric heaters. Keep the heater at least 3 feet away from objects such as curtains, bedding, and furniture. The heater must be able to maintain a good air intake and exhaust flow. Keep the heater out of reach of children. Again, the heaters can get very hot and easily burn a small child.

The next item I will mention is the proper use of your fireplace. Before you start using it again for the season make sure you have it inspected. It is very important this year since we have had a lack of rain and the ground is very dry. This dry ground can cause your house to settle which may crack the structure of the chimney. When you use the fireplace, make sure you do not use wood that burns extremely hot such as Hedge. Keep the fireplace screen in place so hot embers cannot emit into the room and ignite other materials and, of course, do not leave the fire burning unattended.

From the staff of the Fire Investigation Division, practice fire safety every day so we don't have to investigate a fire at your home!

## Wisconsin Man Pleads To Explosives Charges by Mike Corn, The Hays Daily News

Originally intended as a "prank," the Wisconsin man responsible for constructing an explosives device found during a routine traffic stop pled no contest to a reduced charge. Steven Wright, 22, Rice Lake, Wis., pleaded no contest to charges of attempted criminal use of explosives and possession of methamphetamine during a hearing in Ellis County District Court District Judge Glenn Braun ultimately found Rice guilty of the charges and ordered a presentence investigation. His sentencing tentatively has been set for Oct. 15.

Ellis County Attorney Tom Drees said he anticipates Wright will receive probation on the charges, although there's no agreement on a sentence in the plea agreement. What the plea agreement does spell out, however, is any probation Wright might receive would be spent in his home state of Wisconsin.

The discovery of the improvised explosive device came when police pulled Rice over on a routine traffic stop by the Hays Police Department. Officers spotted a device in the front seat of Rice's pickup, a duct-taped plastic bottle with a fuse extending from it. According to Drees, Wright told police he had disassembled an aerial fireworks display to create the device he intended to set off at his job site as a prank. He thought it would cause a loud noise.

The device ultimately was exploded by the Kansas Fire Marshal's office and the Kansas Highway Patrol and did produce a loud explosion.

## Safety City at the Anderson County Corn Festival

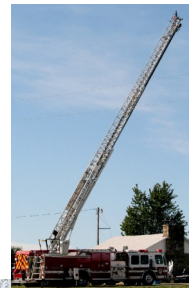


A huge display of emergency vehicles and interactive safety exhibits converged at Cornstock to create a "Safety City" on Saturday, September

22, 2012 at the 8th Annual Cornstock Festival in the North Lake Park in Garnett Kansas.

Displays included the KHP Seat Belt Safety, Kansas Wildlife and Parks Drunk Ski Jet, Anderson County Fire Department Vehicle Extrication Demo, Life Flight Helicopter, Pink Heels Pink Fire Trucks, Garnett Police Department and more.

Fire Investigator Jeff Davis and Fire Prevention Inspector Seth Toomay were on-hand to distribute resources and answer questions on behalf of the OSFM.



# HAZ MAT NEWS

## Remember October is Fire Prevention Month and Prevention is Key

October is fire prevention month, yet much of what we think about and teach are those behaviors that we need after a fire. We are all accustomed to the catch phrases like: stop, drop and roll, know two ways out, stay low and go in smoke and call 9-1-1 in an emergency. All of these are important and we need to know them to keep us safe in the event of a fire, but there are lots of things we can do to actually PREVENT those fires in the first place.

Of course having a home fire escape plan is always important, we all need to know what to do and how to do it if there is a fire in our home. Equally important is to have working smoke alarms on every level of our home, in every sleeping room, and outside all sleeping areas.

There are other things we can do to prevent fires: do not run extension cords under carpets or rugs; do not let trash collect around water heaters, furnaces or other heat producing devices; do not leave candles unattended or sitting on or near combustible materials, to name just a few.

How about extending our prevention vigilance and actions to the storage areas around our homes by targeting chemical hazards? Many of these chemicals can cause or contribute to the intensity of a fire in addition to severe health effects. For example, look around your garage: propane cylinders? gasoline containers? motor oil? last year's fertilizer and this year's left over pesticides?

The storage shed in the back yard is a harbinger of hazards with various poisons, some very outdated. Some of these sheds and storage areas are home to mice and rats which can carry disease.

Now, look under the kitchen sink, a wonderful space to put all kinds hazardous products: carpet shampoo, oven cleaners, soaps, lots of spray cans and bottles with unknown substances, long forgotten why we bought them or still have them around. Then there are the drain cleaners and other caustic supplies. Often we find chlorine bleach and ammonia spray cleaners sitting side by side, products that when mixed can kill a person.

Next we travel to the basement workroom: sawdust accumulation, lubricants, extension cords, hobby and craft materials can all be hazardous if mixed improperly or used without ventilation.

How about that bathroom medicine cabinet? Check for outdated meds, ointments, and various other medicinal items that have long past expired and may have become toxic and dangerous over time.

Remember the hazard warning words on poison containers? **CAUTION**, meaning a low toxicity level. **WARNING**, indicating a higher toxicity level, and **DANGER**, meaning the highest level of toxicity. Always read and follow the directions on the label of toxic garden chemicals. If someone gets overcome or contaminated with these chemicals, see a doctor and seal the remainder of the product container in a clear plastic bag and take that to the doctor with you. The doctor can use much of the information contained on the label for assessment and treatment decisions.

And while you are at it, are there kids around the house that have access to these items? Think about that and how to secure or properly discard hazardous items to keep you and your family safe.

Stay Safe!

## OSFM HazMat Division Conducts 80-Hour HazMat Technician Class

The OSFM HazMat Division conducted an 80-hour Technician course in Haysville, September 4—14. The class had 15 enrolled but ultimately only 13 were able to attend the class including two individuals from Oklahoma.

The class, intended for personnel that may respond to and mitigate an incident involving hazardous materials/WMD, was well received. Using a risk-based response process, students were required to analyze problems involving HazMat/WMD, select applicable decontamination procedures, monitor equipment, correctly interpret data and control a release using specialized protective clothing and control equipment.

The intensive, hands-on course met all the competencies detailed in the NFPA 472 in a two-week format. Students were required to complete quizzes, a written test, course research project and hands-on competencies with an 80% minimum score.

The Kansas Fire and Rescue Training Institute administered the test for certification.



## Regional Teams Trained on Multi Rae 5 Gas Monitor



Members of the state's regional response teams had an opportunity to train on the Multi Rae 5 Gas Monitor last week. John Hoffman of Wise Safety and Environmental was the instructor.

Students learned operations, calibration, field maintenance and repair. Twelve to 15 team members participated each day from Salina, Topeka, and Sedgwick County.



# FIRE SAFETY NEWS

## October is Fire Prevention Month

Fire Prevention Week was established to commemorate the Great Chicago Fire, the tragic 1871 conflagration killed more than 250 people, left 100,000 homeless, destroyed more than 17,400 structures and burned more than 2,000 acres. The fire began on October 8, but continued into and did most of its damage on October 9, 1871. According to popular legend, Mrs. Catherine O'Leary's cow has been blamed for more than 130 years for kicking over a lamp and setting first the barn, then the whole city on fire.

Like any good legend, the "case of the cow" probably has some truth to it. However, over the years journalists and historians have offered plenty of theories, some blamed neighborhood boys up to mischief, others blame inappropriately discarded smoking materials and still others blame a fiery meteorite. Regardless of the cause, this fire and many others over the years have taught us dozens of important lessons about how fires burn, how to prevent fire and how to respond if you find yourself in a fire situation. The Kansas State Fire Marshal recommends these tips to keep you and your family safe!

### Tip # 1 - Install Smoke Alarms in Your Home

#### Install Smoke Alarms

- Install a smoke alarm on every level of your home.
- Install a smoke alarm in every bedroom and outside every sleeping area.
- Install a smoke alarm in the stairwell if there is a basement or an upstairs in your home.
- When possible, choose "dual sensing" (ionization and photoelectric) smoke alarms with long-life battery, that provide early warning for both high flame fires and smoky, smoldering fires.
- For the best protection, interconnect all smoke alarms so if one sounds, they all sound.

#### Test and Clean Your Smoke Alarms

- Test each alarm monthly according to the manufacturer's instructions.
- Dust or lightly vacuum dirt, pet hair and other substances that could block the sensors and slow the alarm response to smoke or fire.
- Never paint alarms.

#### Change Batteries or Replace Alarms

- Change batteries at the same time each year, when you change your clocks for daylight savings time.
- Replace alarms every 10 years or if it fails to respond when tested.

#### Special Alarms

- Special alarms are made for people who are deaf or hard of hearing that use flashing lights or vibration devices.
- Special alarms are made for children that allow parents to record a message encouraging the child to get

### Tip # 2 - Plan and Practice a Home Fire Drill



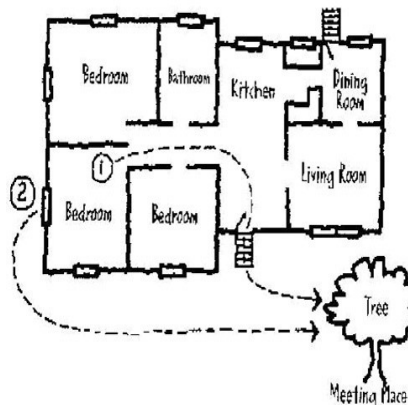
Regardless of your family structure, age or ability, your capacity to get out of your home depends on advance warning from working smoke alarms and advanced planning. Follow tip 1 on how to install and maintain your smoke alarms.



#### Plan Your Escape

- Meet with everyone in your home.
- Make sure all your escape routes and exits are clear of clutter and easily opened by everyone.
- Draw a map of your home and have 2 ways out of every room.
- Choose a meeting place a safe distance outside your home.
- Mark your meeting place on your family map, like the tree below.
- Be sure your address is on your home and visible from the road so emergency responders can find you.
- Call 911 from outside the home once you are at your meeting place.

### Tip # 3 - Have 2 Ways Out of Every Room



#### Practice Your Plan

- Mark 2 ways out of every room.
- Practice your home escape plan at least two times.
- Don't make the practice too scary by telling everyone the first few times so they know what to expect.
- Change things up by blocking an exit so everyone can practice using their secondary exit.
- Be sure everyone goes to the family meeting place and remains until the entire family has exited the home.

## Fire Prevention Week Kicks Off October 7th!

The Electrical Safety Foundation International (ESFI) is a non-profit organization dedicated exclusively to promoting electrical safety. They engage in public education campaigns throughout the year to reduce electrically-related fires, fatalities, injuries and property loss. The ESFI sponsors National Electrical Safety Month each May to increase public awareness of the electrical hazards around us at home, work, school and play. All their electrical safety resources are available at no cost on their website at [www.electrical-safety.org](http://www.electrical-safety.org)



This year the ESFI is teaming up with the [National Fire Protection Association](http://www.nfpa.org) (NFPA) to promote Fire Prevention Week, October 7-13, 2012.

ESFI has created the [Fire Prevention Week 2012 Toolkit](#), which provides a variety of resources to not only help families learn to prevent

electrical fires, but also to become better prepared in case a fire does happen. The comprehensive toolkit features the [Electrical Fire Safety Checklist](#), which can be used to help identify and correct home electrical fire hazards. Also included are detailed tip sheets about how to properly maintain both [smoke alarms](#) and [arc fault circuit interrupters \(AFCIs\)](#).

The theme of NFPA's campaign, "[Have 2 Ways Out](#)," focuses on planning to make a safe escape during a fire. Additional ESFI fire safety resources directly support the "Have 2 Ways Out" message. [The Virtual Fire Drill](#) is an interactive simulation that allows families to put their fire safety knowledge to the test while "escaping" from a virtual home fire and the [P.I. Plug's Smoke Alarm Safety Video](#) teaches children about the importance of smoke alarms as well as simple fire safety skills. For more fire prevention tips and resources, visit our [website](#).



## Kids Explore Firefighting Careers



Bourbon County youth were able to explore firefighting and other emergency services careers recently thanks to the efforts of the Bourbon County Fire District #3 staff who are beginning a new Fire and Emergency Services Exploring program

through the Boys Scouts of America.

Lou Howard of Bourbon County Fire District #3 said they have been working on the project for two years. Exploring is a new venture and as far as she knows, will be the first one in southeast Kansas. The program is for all boys and girls who are 14 year olds and completed the eighth grade up to 20 year olds. The department's biggest concern is the safety of the youth involved, so they have gone to great extremes to set the program up according to the guidelines established by the Boy Scouts of America *Learning for Life* program which is a chartered organization.



The five youth who were able to come to the first meeting were suited in bunker gear and put through a series of learning experiences that included handling a charged line and traversing the department obstacle course.

In the future, the Explorers will learn basic firefighting, washing trucks, cleaning hoses, and maintaining equipment, different fire streams, fire extinguishers, engine



operations, water supply, fire behavior, fire ground safety and fire inspections. They will have the opportunity to explore firefighting as a career option or maybe just see the importance of volunteering for your community once you are eligible. Howard pointed out that this will also look very good on college applications and job resumes.

This project will be a learning opportunity for everyone involved, both volunteer teachers and youth.







## Halloween Fire Safety Tips

Halloween is a fun and spooky time of year for kids. Make trick-or-treating safe for your little monsters with a few easy safety tips!!



- **When choosing a costume**, stay away from billowing or long trailing fabrics. If your child is wearing a mask, make sure the eye holes are large enough so they can see out.
- **Provide children** with flashlights to carry for lighting or glow sticks as part of their costumes. Liquid in glow sticks is hazardous so remind children not to chew on or break them.
- Dried flowers, cornstalks, and crepe paper are highly flammable so **keep** these and all **decorations away from all open flames** and heat sources, including light bulbs, heaters and candles.
- **It is safest to use** a flashlight or battery-operated candle in a jack-o-lantern. If you use a real candle, use extreme caution.
  - Make sure children are watched at all times when candles are lit.
  - Use long, fireplace style matches or utility lighters when lighting candles inside jack-o-lanterns.
  - Be sure to place lit pumpkins away from anything that can burn and far enough away from trick-or-treaters, doorsteps, walkways and yards.
- **Remember** to keep exits clear of decorations so nothing blocks your escape routes.
- **Tell children** to stay away from open flames. Be sure they know how to stop, drop and roll if their clothes catch on fire. Have them practice so you can be sure they know the reason is to smother any flames.
- **Use flashlights or torch lights** as alternatives to candles to decorate walkways and yards.
- If your children are going to a **Halloween Party** at others' homes, have them look for ways out of the home and plan how they would get out in an emergency.

### Did you know?



Decorations are the first thing to ignite in more than 1,000 reported home fires each year.

# AGENCY PARTNERSHIPS AND ORGANIZATION NEWS



## State Fire Marshal Supports Community Partnerships in Fire Safety, Firesetter Intervention and Injury Prevention

### *Fire Remains a Leading Cause of Death for Children Ages 14 and Under*

*Safe Kids Kansas provides key tips to keep kids safer for Fire Prevention Week*

As the weather starts to turn colder, the risk of fires increases significantly. Yet, only 23% of households have actually developed and practiced a home fire escape plan. National Fire Prevention Week is Oct. 7 to 13, 2012, and this year's theme, "Have 2 Ways Out!", focuses on the importance of fire escape planning and practice. Having a plan, prepares your family to get out quickly when the smoke alarm sounds.

Having two ways out is an important part of your plan in case your first escape route is blocked by smoke or flames. Safe Kids joins the National Fire Protection Association and the Office of the State Fire Marshal to urge families to develop and practice a fire escape plan, as well as to take active measures to help prevent fires in their homes. Approximately 80% of all fire-related deaths and injuries occur in the home, and young children are at a particularly high risk because they don't perceive danger as readily and can lack the ability to escape a life-threatening fire situation.

"Having a working smoke alarm reduces a person's chances of dying in a fire by nearly half," said Cherie Sage, Safe Kids Kansas. "It is important to have a working smoke alarm on each level of the home and outside of each sleeping area, but being alerted to a fire is only the first step. Your family must know how to escape a fire to a safe location outside the home. Making and practicing a fire escape plan helps ensure your family members know just what to do." Important tips for escape planning:

- Make a home escape plan. Draw a map of your home showing all doors and windows. Talk about the plan with everyone in your home.
- Practice your fire escape plan with at least two ways out of each room.
- Have an outside meeting place a safe distance from the home where everyone should meet.
- Practice your home fire drill at night and during the day, twice a year.
- Teach children how to escape on their own in case you can't help them.
- In a fire, get out and stay out - NEVER go back inside for people or pets.
- Teach kids how to "get low and go" if they hear the smoke alarm, smell smoke or see flames.
- Call the fire department only when you are safely outside your home.

The best way to stay safe from fire is to prevent it. Here are a few prevention tips:

- Keep matches, gasoline, and lighters locked away, out of children's reach and sight.
- Never leave the kitchen while you are cooking. Use back burners and turn pot handles to the back of the stove when cooking.
- Never leave a burning candle unattended. Place candles in a safe location away from combustible materials and where children or pets cannot tip them over.
- Place space heaters at least 3 feet from curtains, papers, furniture and other flammable materials. Always turn space heaters off when leaving the room or going to bed.
- Test all smoke alarms every month and change the batteries once a year, even if they are hard-wired. Smoke alarms are also available with 10-year lithium batteries.
- Consider a home sprinkler system. The combination of smoke alarms and sprinklers can reduce your chances of dying in a fire by 82 percent.

NFPA has organized National Fire Prevention Week annually since 1922. For more details visit [www.firepreventionweek.org](http://www.firepreventionweek.org). For more information about fire safety for children and families, as well as helpful tips and videos, visit [www.safekids.org](http://www.safekids.org).



### **New Website for Young Adults with Disabilities**

The Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs (CYSHCN) program at the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) and the Center for Child Health and Development at KU Medical Center collaborated to develop a website to assist Kansas parents and professionals in planning the transition of their young adult into adult life.

The *Building a Life* website is a guide that can help families and professionals assist young adults with disabilities in moving from dependence to independence in their community. The young adult's support network will gain knowledge of the services available and how to access them, regardless of where they are in the transition process.

According to Heather Smith, KDHE/CYSHCN Planning Consultant, there are many families who have encountered difficulties in learning what support and services are available in their communities and beyond. So, the information on this website will assist them in decision ranging from where young adults can live, to how they will make a living, manage their own health care and more.

The goal of this site is to provide a useful tool in starting and working through the process of *Building a Life* in the community for young adults with disabilities.

Go to [www.buildingalife.ku.edu](http://www.buildingalife.ku.edu) to see the website or for information contact Phyllis Young [pyoung@kumc.edu](mailto:pyoung@kumc.edu) or 913-588-5741.

For more information on the CYSHCN program at KDHE, contact Heather Smith at [hsmith@kdheks.gov](mailto:hsmith@kdheks.gov) or 785-296-4747.



## Longtime Assistant Named Ellis Fire Chief

by Randy Gonzales, The Hays Daily News

Mayor David McDaniel appointed longtime assistant fire chief Denis Vine the new fire chief of the Ellis County Volunteer Fire Department. Chief Vine has been with the department for 39 years, with the last 23 as assistant chief.

"It just pretty much followed that he should be the next person in line for that position, and he wanted it. He's been in charge now for maybe 30 days," McDaniel said. "He's been doing a fine job at that position."

"I'm happy to serve the community, serving like I had been doing the last 39 years," said Vine, who has been interim chief since Weber's retirement. "My goal is to take the fire department, and train them like we have been training them," Vine said. "Try to bring this Ellis city fire department up to be one of the best volunteer fire departments you could possibly have. That would be my goal."

Vine said "We have a very good department now. We have a lot of people with a lot of experience. You could have picked a number of different people to be chief, and they would have done very well. I'm lucky to have a lot of really good, super people on the fire department to work with."

Ellis has 20 volunteer firefighters in the department. Vine named Troy Parson assistant chief, and appointed Dave Honas and Dustin Vine as captains.

## Fire Protection Research Foundation Receives Grant

Cooking equipment-related fires are the leading cause of U.S. fire loss, according to the [National Fire Protection Association](#) (NFPA). During the five-year-period of 2006-2010, cooking equipment was involved in an average of 157,300 reported home structure fires, with associated losses of 380 civilian deaths, 4,920 civilian injuries and \$794 million in direct property damage per year.

The [Fire Protection Research Foundation](#) (Foundation), an affiliate of NFPA, with a grant from the [National Institute of Standards and Technology](#) (NIST), is addressing this concern. For the remainder of 2012 and throughout 2013, the Foundation will support a research project to examine three main areas of cooking-related fires and develop an action plan towards improving overall cooking fire safety. The project will focus on the development of the means for implementing prevention technologies that are suitable for use on or with home cooking appliances. The three categories of cooking-related fires to be studied are: fires starting in a pot or pan on a burner; fires due to food spillage onto a burner; and products such as utensils, oven mitts and other items that catch fire on or near a burner.

Since the 1980s, NIST, the [Consumer Product Safety Commission](#), and the home appliance industry have undertaken a series of comprehensive strategy reviews to reduce the number of deaths, injuries and property losses from cooking fires. In February 2010, a Vision 20/20 workshop was held on this topic, which resulted in a Foundation study, [Home Cooking Fire Mitigation: Technology Assessment](#). The study, also supported by NIST, was aimed at developing an initial action plan to assess the performance of home-cooking safety technologies.

The latest grant-funded research project report is slated for completion by the end of 2013, and will be made available through the [Foundation's website](#).

### About the Foundation

The [Fire Protection Research Foundation](#) plans, manages, and communicates research on a broad range of fire safety issues in collaboration with scientists and laboratories around the world. The Foundation is an affiliate of NFPA.

### About the National Fire Protection Association

The NFPA is a worldwide leader in fire, electrical, building, and life safety. The mission of this non-profit international organization founded in 1896 is to reduce the worldwide burden of fire and other hazards on the quality of life by providing and advocating consensus codes and standards, research, training, and education. Visit NFPA's website at [www.nfpa.org](http://www.nfpa.org) for more information.



### "Fire Prevention" Materials Reach 35,000 Kansans With Nine Departments Awarded Mini-Grants

Once again the Fire Education Association of Kansas offered mini-grants in the form of the NFPA "Fire Prevention in a Box" kits for 100. The kits include a banner, posters, and 100 each adult and children brochures, stickers, magnets, fire fact newsletters and bags.

In addition, recipients received a FEAK membership for the remainder of this year and CY 2012. The recipient departments agreed to attend a FEAK meeting or provide a written summary of their activities including pictures during Fire Prevention Week, October 7-13, 2013.

Concordia Fire Department - Fire Chief Larry Eubanks

Garnett Fire Department - Fire Chief Charles Tate

Holcomb Community Fire Department - Fire Chief Bill Knight

McLouth Fire Department - Fire Chief Darrell Chess

Mission Township Fire Department - Fire Chief Forrest Walter

Pottawatomie Township Fire Department - Fire Chief James Savage

Richmond Consolidated Fire District - Fire Chief Steve Weese

Safe Kids Meade County - Coordinator Tammy Bird

Seward County Fire Department - Fire Chief Michael Rice

**Congratulations Grantees!!**

## OTHER NEWS

### Trumpet Deadline

For information on receiving the State Fire Marshal *Trumpet* or to submit your meeting notices, training announcements, articles, photos or other information, please contact Elena. Photos should be submitted as a .jpg or .tif attachment to an email.

Elena Nuss  
785-296-3403  
[elena.nuss@ksfm.ks.gov](mailto:elena.nuss@ksfm.ks.gov)

### Tammy Snow Appointed Deputy Fire Chief



A Wichita Fire Department veteran made history when the agency appointed Tammy Snow as WFD Deputy Chief. Chief Snow is the first woman to hold the position and the highest ranking woman in the 126-year history of the department.

According to Fire Chief Ron Blackwell, she is one of the hardest working, conscientious and dedicated public safety servants he has ever known. He indicated that her career in public safety had been stellar.

Chief Snow has actually been in the position as the interim deputy chief since October of 2011. She has been heavily endorsed by the fire union, despite their vote of no confidence earlier this year with other ranked officials.

Snow was promoted from fire captain to battalion fire chief in 2008. She is a 24-year veteran of the Wichita Fire Department.

Chief Snow will be responsible for the day-to-day direction of emergency services including medical emergencies, fires, hazardous materials, and rescue team operations. Her direction will be critical to the 12 battalion chiefs and 22 city fire stations.

**Congratulations Chief Snow!**

### 1<sup>st</sup> Annual HOMETOWN HEROES

#### Kickball Tournament

PRIZES AWARDED TO TOP 3 TEAMS

Veteran's Park \* Hanover, Kansas



PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT

WASHINGTON COUNTY RFD #10

Hanover/Hollenberg

October 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup>

\$80 Team Entry Fee

ACCEPTING FIRST 30 TEAMS \*\*\*REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

#### CONTACT INFORMATION

Brian Hornkohl: 785.313.5048

Ron Wetter: 402.380.5038

Jamie Smith: 785.713.1233

#### SPECIAL THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS



### State Fire Marshal Houses Replica of Firefighter Memorial



In 2001 legislation was signed that authorized the construction of a memorial to be built on the Capitol grounds in Topeka to honor Kansas firefighters who have lost their lives in the line of duty.

A scaled replica is housed at the Office of the Kansas State Fire Marshal where it is on view. The OSFM also transports the replica to fire service events across the state.

Please send your tax deductible donation to:

Firefighters Memorial Fund

Attn: Eldred Wenger, KDoA, DFM

900 SW Jackson St., Room 600

Topeka, KS 66612

For questions or more information contact:

Robert (Bob) McLemore, Colby Fire Dept.

585 N. Franklin, Colby, KS 66701

(785)460-4454 OR (785) 462-4454